

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CDC

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, on July 1, 1996, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC]—the Nation's prevention agency—will celebrate its 50th anniversary. This represents 50 years of commitment to improvement in the public health, a commitment that has been carried out by a dedicated and highly professional work force.

Over the years, I have been a strong supporter of this unique Federal agency. Along with my colleagues, I have helped authorize and expand CDC prevention programs which have made and will continue to make significant improvements in the public's health. These programs include: immunization, HIV prevention, tuberculosis control, lead-paint poisoning prevention, and the Breast and Cervical Cancer Mortality Prevention Program, to name a few.

Throughout that period, and indeed its entire history, CDC's scientists and epidemiologists have responded to countless challenges domestically and around the world, including Legionnaire's disease, environmental and workplace hazards, smallpox, plague, and Ebola.

In recognition of this 50-year milestone, I am pleased to share with my colleagues a message from CDC's distinguished Director, Dr. David Satcher. I heartily commend the CDC for its accomplishments and look forward to its achievements in the next 50 years.

REMARKS BY DR. DAVID SATCHER, DIRECTOR,  
AT THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CDC

During 1996, Atlanta will be the site of several events of worldwide significance—the Centennial Olympics, the Paralympic Games, the 200th anniversary of the development of the vaccine ultimately responsible for the eradication of smallpox, and the 50th anniversary of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC].

As CDC celebrates a half century of public health excellence, we are mindful of the skill and courage of these early public health pioneers, who risked their lives in order to address environmental hazards and control diseases such as smallpox, polio, malaria, and diphtheria. We are honored to continue on in their work and committed to the difficult challenges that lie ahead.

CDC has contributed to the control of infectious diseases such as the Ebola outbreak in Africa and tuberculosis in the United States. We also have protected workers from environmental hazards, improved early detection and control systems for breast cancer and cervical cancer, recommended fortification of foods with folic acid to prevent birth defects, and conducted research to identify potential dangers of airbags to infants.

Now, more than ever, public health programs and services are needed to ensure the best possible health for everyone. Providing safe living and work environments, developing methods to immunize populations against infectious diseases, and maintaining

good prenatal care for expectant mothers are vital endeavors. Prevention measures and interventions can mean the difference not only between life and death but also in the quality of life.

In meeting these challenges, we will work closely with our traditional partners—local and state health departments, departments of education, voluntary and professional organizations, partnerships with churches, schools, and businesses. CDC brings to these partnerships a comprehensive, systematic approach to health promotion and disease prevention and expertise in laboratory science, epidemiology, surveillance, infectious disease control, environmental and occupational safeguards, and quality assurance.

The anniversary is a milestone for our Nation. It is a sobering reminder of the challenges we face as we enter the 21st century, when, clearly, public health will be a global concern. Increased disruption to the tropical environment will result in diseases that are no longer contained in a localized habitat but, rather, migrate with their human hosts to cities and neighboring continents. The mobility of people, through air travel, natural disaster, or civil war, is reshaping the routes of infection and the course of epidemics.

Our work and that of our partners during CDC's first 50 years has contributed to powerful scientific discovery and momentous public health achievements that have improved health throughout the world. As we review our past accomplishments, we are proud. As we look forward to our exciting future, we are energized.

CDC's 50th Anniversary Celebration is an excellent opportunity to reinforce our commitment to our vision, "Healthy People in the Healthy World Through Prevention".

## CDC'S 50 YEARS OF PREVENTION EFFORTS SHOULD BE COMMENDED

HON. RICHARD J. DURBIN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Speaker, on July 1, our Nation's preventive health agency, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], will turn 50. As a strong proponent of prevention strategies to enhance public health in the United States, I would like to commend the CDC for its prevention efforts. As co-chairman of the Congressional Task Force on Tobacco and Health, I would like to specifically acknowledge CDC's efforts to lead and coordinate strategic activities that prevent tobacco use.

For example, CDC has worked extensively to reduce teen access to tobacco and the appeal of tobacco among young people, reduce exposure to secondhand smoke, strengthen and expand the scientific foundation of tobacco control and prevention, and build the capacity of States and organizations to conduct tobacco control programs.

CDC has also served as a primary resource for tobacco and health information to educate

the public and specific segments of the population about the hazards of tobacco use. In addition, it has worked closely with partners to ensure a strong tobacco use prevention network.

In recognition of this significant 50-year milestone, I would also like to commend CDC for its outstanding efforts to protect women's health through preventive health services, research, and surveillance and for its important research and surveillance activities for preventing HIV/AIDS.

I congratulate the agency and its dedicated workforce, and I look forward to another 50 years of outstanding work to enhance the health of the American people.

## A TRIBUTE TO ED POSHARD

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 27, 1996

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to my brother Ed Poshard who is retiring on July 31 after 36 years of service with State Farm Insurance Co.

Throughout my entire life, my brother has been a great inspiration to me, having given me the benefit of his love and wisdom since I was a small boy. I could not begin to count the benefits that have accrued to me over my lifetime as a result of my brother's influence on my life.

Some of my earliest memories as a child was Ed getting up at 4 a.m., still in his teens, packing a lunch bucket and heading out over ice slickened roads to work in the oil fields. Whatever money he made, he shared with the family, especially with my sister Jolene and me, who were still young and in school. Going into Norris City with him every Saturday morning, getting a burr haircut at Will Harlow's barber shop, and washing his car, always washing his car, for his Saturday night date were some of the highlights of my youth. He was my big brother who I always looked up to and was always proud of.

He finished high school, went to college while he was still in the Army, sent pictures to our home of far away places, told me in every letter to get a good education, and fueled my own dreams of learning and contributing to my fellow man.

But more than the dreams he inspired and the encouragement he gave and the wisdom he shared there was something else he gave me that only had to be observed. It's called work ethic and it's a little out of vogue today. But not with my brother. Ed has worked hard at everything he's done. He's worked hard at being a good husband, a good father, a good son, and a good brother. And for the folks in this room, he's worked really hard at being a good insurance agent. In fact, my brother isn't just a good insurance agent, he's a great one. He has lived and breathed and loved his work in a way few people ever do. After his family,

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